

NEIL GAIMAN'S



TM



4

# Lady JUSTICE



DIRECT SALES



00411



7 97604 57675 7 >

RICH RAINEY • CHRIS MARRINAN • MARK HEIKE • DANIEL BRERETON

\$2.25 U.S. \$3.10 CANADA £1.75 U.K.







# NEIL GAIMAN'S *Lady* JUSTICE

**Laurie Silvers**  
PRESIDENT &  
CO-FOUNDER

**Mitchell Rubenstein**  
C.E.O. & CO-FOUNDER



**Ed Polgardy**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**Dr. Martin Greenberg**  
SENIOR EDITOR

**Jeff Rovin**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR  
SPECIAL PROJECTS

**James Chambers**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

**Christopher Mills**  
**Martin Powell**  
EDITORS

**Julie Riddle**  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

**William Wiebking**  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT



**Michael Chatham**  
CREATIVE DIRECTOR

**Suzanne Andrade**  
**Erika Taguchi**  
**JR. Ginther**  
GRAPHIC DESIGN



**Albert Rodriguez**  
DIR. PRODUCTION

**Michael Palmer**  
PROD. PASTE-UP  
COORDINATOR

**Rafer Schieck**  
PRODUCTION  
ASSISTANT



**Denise Treco**  
EXEC. DIR. CORPORATE  
COMMUNICATIONS

**Haydee Cardenas**  
PUBLICIST

**Santa Forget**  
ADVERTISING/  
SOLICITATION COORD.



**Nancy Groninger**  
EXEC. PROJECTS  
MANAGER

## She Is Justice.

Represented since the beginning of time  
as a robed woman, blinded, armed with  
naught but a sword and a sense of balance.  
A woman cut off from the masculine world  
of clues and hard realities, forced into  
the depths of her remaining senses -  
touch, smell, taste, hearing.

A woman joined with her innermost self,  
focused only on her mission. A woman  
who cannot be deceived, cannot be fooled.

A woman blind...

...To all but justice.

"Injustice never rules forever."

—Seneca

Neil Gaiman's Lady Justice™, Volume 2, No. 4, September 1996 (ISSN 1079-140X) published monthly by BIG Entertainment, Inc., 2255 Glades Road, Suite 237W, Boca Raton, FL 33431-7395. Mitchell Rubenstein, Chief Executive Officer. Laurie S. Silvers, President and Publisher. Copyright © 1996 BIG Entertainment, Inc. All Rights reserved. Price \$2.25 per copy in the U.S. and \$3.10 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. \$19.95. Canadian subscribers, add \$10.00 for postage and GST. All foreign customers, add \$12.00 for postage. All remittances must be in U.S. funds only. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. Any similarity to persons living or dead, characters, names, and/or institutions is purely coincidental. This magazine may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. Neil Gaiman's Lady Justice™, including all characters featured and the names and distinct likenesses thereof, are trademarks of BIG Entertainment, Inc. POSTMASTER: Send Address changes to Neil Gaiman's Lady Justice™, P.O. Box 750, Mt. Morris, IL 61054.

PRINTED IN CANADA.  
Big Entertainment NASDAQ:BIGE





LET ME GO!  
PLEASE-

# SECRET TREATIES

**"CONTROL FREAK": PART THREE**

written by RICH RAINEY/pencilled by CHRIS MARRINAN  
inked by MARK G. HEIKE, BILL BLACK & DAVID JACOB BECKETT  
lettered by KEN BRUZENAK/computer colored by HEROIC AGE  
cover painting by DANIEL BRERETON  
edited by CHRISTOPHER MILLS



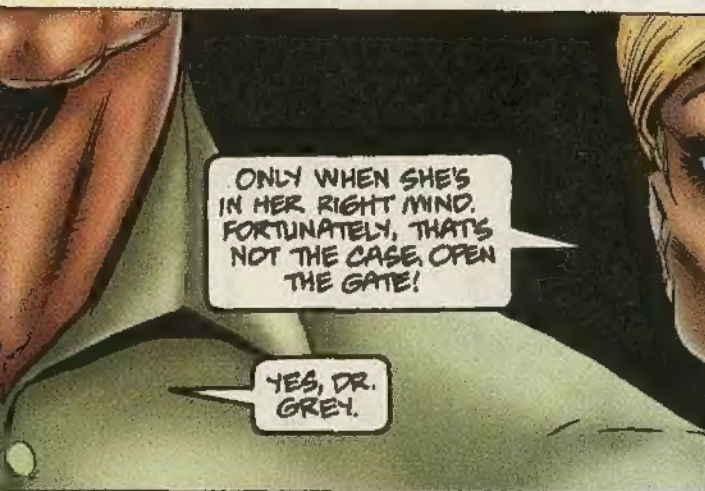


--LET ME GO  
IN! TAKE ME  
BACK!



RELEASE HER,  
JAMES. THERE'S  
NO NEED TO HURT  
HER...YET.

BUT SHE'S  
DANGEROUS--



ONLY WHEN SHE'S  
IN HER RIGHT MIND.  
FORTUNATELY, THAT'S  
NOT THE CASE. OPEN  
THE GATE!

YES, DR.  
GREY.



DR. THORNE'S  
PROGRAMMING  
APPEARS TO BE  
WORKING AFTER  
ALL--STAND BY,  
JUST IN CASE.



WE'RE GLAD  
YOU CAME BACK,  
MISS DIAMOND.  
YOU MADE THE  
RIGHT CHOICE.

I HAD NO  
CHOICE. IF I  
DIDN'T COME  
BACK...I'D...

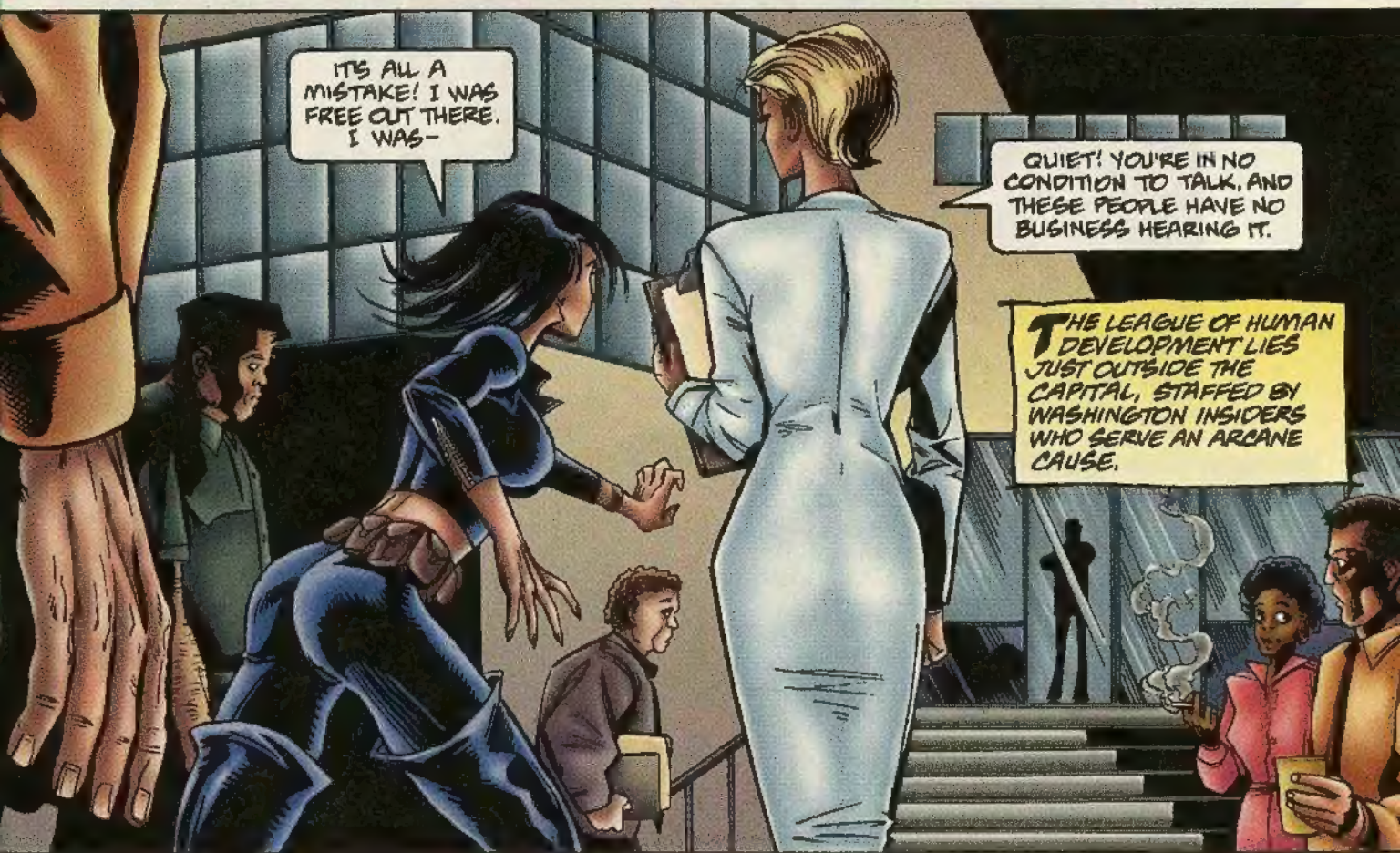
...I'D HAVE  
TO KILL  
MYSELF.





THAT'S THE GENERAL IDEA. IT JUST TOOK LONGER TO SINK IN WITH YOU.

RACKKKK



IT'S ALL A MISTAKE! I WAS FREE OUT THERE. I WAS—

QUIET! YOU'RE IN NO CONDITION TO TALK, AND THESE PEOPLE HAVE NO BUSINESS HEARING IT.

**T**HE LEAGUE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT LIES JUST OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL, STAFFED BY WASHINGTON INSIDERS WHO SERVE AN ARCAINE CAUSE.



IN THE CULT OF INTELLIGENCE, THIS IS THE SHRINE, AND DR. RANDOLPH THORNE IS THE HIGH PRIEST.

OH, GOD—THORNE—I WAS CRAZY TO COME HERE!

YOU WERE CRAZY LONG BEFORE. BUT IT'S TOO LATE FOR SECOND THOUGHTS NOW. IT'S TIME FOR...





...NO THOUGHTS  
AT ALL.



ZZRRRPPP

NO-OH-OH-OHH-  
AHHHHPP.



WELCOME BACK,  
BRIGITTE. WE'VE  
MISSED YOU SO.



PREPARE HER FOR  
DEBRIEFING, DR. GREY.  
SEE THAT SHE GETS  
ENOUGH FOR AN  
EXTENDED SESSION.  
WE'VE GOT A LOT OF--





IN THE FIFTH ISSUE OF  
**P H A G E™:**  
**SHADOW DEATH™**



ORLANDO RACES AGAINST THE CLOCK TO FIND THE  
PSI-BOMB BEFORE IT ERUPTS—BUT CAN HE GET THROUGH  
THE PHAGE'S DEFENSIVE LINE OF BIGGER,  
BADDER BOOTMEN FIRST?! DON'T MISS IT!



"...CATCHING UP TO DO."

HSSSSSSHHHHH

HSSSSSSSSHHHHH

IT'S ME, BRIGITTE.  
IT'S ANTON. COME  
HOME TO ME. TELL  
ME WHERE YOU'VE  
BEEN.


HSSSSSSSSHHHHH

ANTON!

I'M STILL  
HERE,  
BRIGITTE.

YOU'RE  
NOT  
ANTON.





OF COURSE I'M NOT. AND YOU'RE NO LONGER BRIGITTE DIAMOND.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

CONSIDER IT A BENEVOLENT DECEPTION. WE'RE JUST...

...ROLE-PLAYING TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, MY DEAR BRIGITTE.

BUT YOU SAID MY NAME'S NOT BRIGITTE....

YOUR REAL NAME'S BRIGITTE DYSON. WE ADDED THE DIAMOND NAME...

"...AND A FEW MORE PERSONALITIES TO YOUR CORE BEING."


THE EMBEDDED PERSONALITIES *MUST* STAY SEPARATE. TO AVOID CONTAMINATION. CERTAIN MEMORY ZONES MUST BE SUPPRESSED.

BUT HOW CAN YOU TREAT ME LIKE AN ENEMY? I CAME BACK TO YOU.


BEFORE WE UNLOCK *THEM*, WE MUST UNLOCK WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR MIND.

I KNOW THAT NOW. BUT I WON'T WHEN I LEAVE HERE. I NEVER DO. YOU KILL A PIECE OF ME EACH TIME.







SOMETHING DISRUPTED THE PROGRAMMING TO MAKE YOU BREAK CONTROL. THERE'S A BUG IN THE SYSTEM--A KILLER VIRUS. IF UNCHECKED IT CAN DESTROY YOU--OR US.




EACH PERSONALITY HAS ITS OWN CODE WORD TO ACTIVATE IT. BLUE CONDITION. RED CONDITION. I'VE BEEN TRYING FOR HOURS, BUT...



...YOU'RE NOT RESPONDING TO ANY CODE. SO NOW WE MUST CONTACT YOUR CORE PERSONALITY. THE ACETOCHOLINE BLOCKER WILL RESTORE THE SYNAPSE FLOW...




...IN THE MEMORY CENTERS WE'VE ADJUSTED. ALL THOSE SUPPRESSED MEMORIES WILL SURFACE, ALMOST LIKE HAVING YOUR LIFE FLASH IN FRONT OF YOUR EYES.




YOU-CAN'T-DO THISSSSS.

IT'S WHAT WE DO BEST. LET THE MEMORIES FLOW. THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO HIDE. TAKE US BACK TO THE BEGINNING...



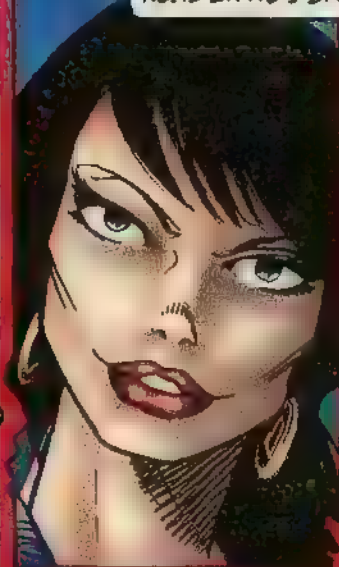


"...BACK WHEN  
YOU FIRST  
MET ANTON  
MERCIER."




HE WAS A COMBAT  
CHOREOGRAPHER  
FOR A THEATER  
GROUP...

"...I TOURED WITH,  
THEY'D BEEN  
MEDIEVALISTS FOR  
YEARS, AND THAT  
WAS THEIR CONNEX-  
TION TO ANTON.



"IT SOON BECAME  
MINE. I'D TAKEN  
MARTIAL ARTS AND  
SWORD FORMS BEFORE,  
BUT IT NEVER SEEMED  
REAL UNTIL I SAW HIM..

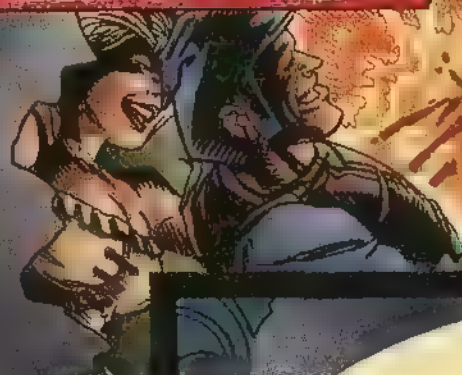


"...I APPRENTICED  
WITH ANTON FOR  
A YEAR...."



"WE SHARED A  
PASSION FOR  
COMBAT..."

"...AND OTHER THINGS. I FELT  
HE WAS GROOMING ME FOR  
SOMETHING SPECIAL. BUT IT  
CHANGED WHEN HE BROUGHT  
ME INTO THE MEDIEVALIST  
KINGDOMS--I SHOULDN'T  
TALK ABOUT IT."



WITH ME IT'S SAFE.  
TELL ME ABOUT THE  
KINGDOMS HE  
BROUGHT YOU INTO.  
THE **SECRET**  
KINGDOMS...

HE'D VANISH FOR  
WEEKS, THEN OUT  
OF THE BLUE  
COME BACK...







"...TO CONTINUE MY TRAINING, I TRAVELED THROUGH CLANDESTINE KINGDOMS TO COMBAT THEIR CHAMPIONS, RISING TO A NEW LEVEL WITH EACH VICTORY.

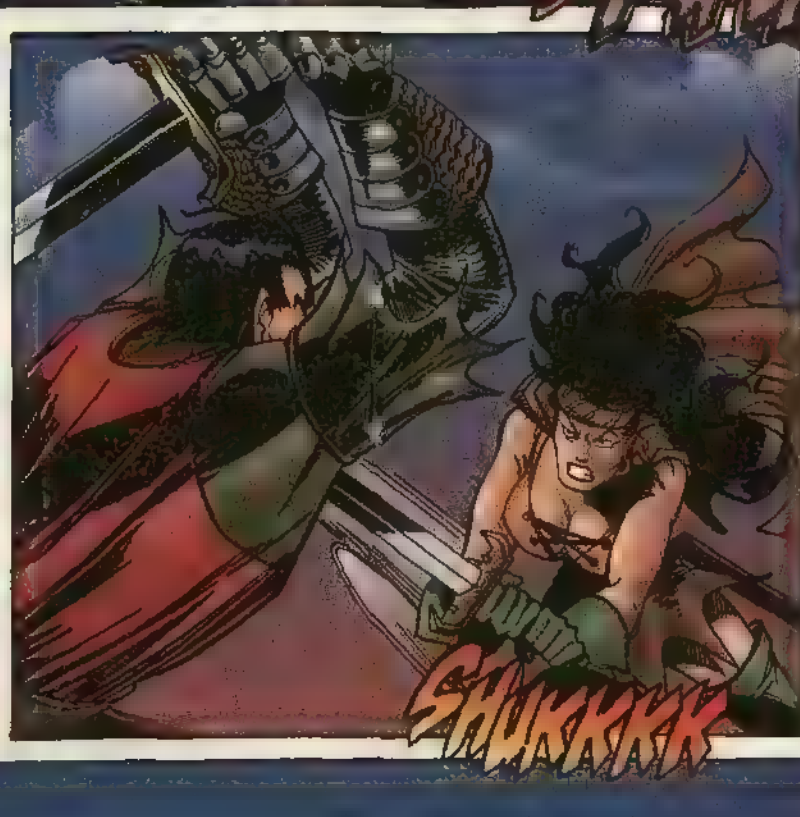
"I THRIVED ON IT, UNTIL WE ADVANCED TO THE ULTIMATE ARENA..."



"...WHERE ONLY ONE WALKED AWAY.



"I DIDN'T KNOW THAT UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE.



"FIRST BLOOD... THE FIRST OF MANY TO COME... TOO MANY..."



I CAN'T GO ON...  
THE MEMORIES  
ARE TOO PAINFUL.

LET ME HELP. YOU  
BECAME A WARRIOR THAT  
DAN--AND A FUGITIVE. SOME-  
ONE TOOK A PHOTO OF THE  
KILLING AND BLACKMAILED  
YOU. YOU HAD NO ONE TO  
TURN TO...

"...EXCEPT US. ANTON  
BROUGHT YOU HERE  
FOR YOUR OWN PROTEC-  
TION. WE GAVE YOU A  
NEW NAME, A NEW  
CAREER YOU WERE  
SUITED FOR.

YOU MADE  
ME A  
MONSTER.  
A KILLER--

ANTON DID THAT.  
HE CONDITIONED  
YOU PHYSICALLY.  
I DID THE MENTAL  
SCULPTING.  
ELECTRONIC  
DISSOLUTION OF  
MEMORY. HEMI-  
SYNC BRAIN  
ENTRAINMENT.  
EMBEDDED  
PERSONALITIES  
WITH SCREEN  
MEMORIES...  
THE USUAL.

"ANTON TRAINED YOU  
WELL. HE TAUGHT YOU  
ALL THE WAYS TO LOVE  
A MAN...AND TO KILL  
HIM."

IT WORKED  
BEAUTIFULLY.  
YOU WERE A  
FLAWLESS KILLING  
MACHINE,  
UNTIL...



...YOU STARTED  
KILLING OUR OWN  
PEOPLE. WE  
MUST FIND THE  
INCIDENT THAT  
MADE YOU  
BREAK AWAY.

IT WAS  
THE SPIRIT  
OF  
JUSTICE.

WHAT?

LADY JUSTICE  
CAME TO ME.  
SHE INHABITS  
ME NOW.

TO AVENGE  
YOUR VICTIMS.  
SHE CHOSE ME  
AS HER AVATAR,  
ENHANCING MY  
POWERS WITH  
HERS.

OH? AND  
WHAT DOES  
THIS LADY  
JUSTICE  
WANT?

THE INCIDENT WAS SO  
TRAUMATIC SHE HAD TO  
CREATE A NEW PERSONALITY  
TO DEAL WITH IT- OR OUR  
ENEMIES CREATED IT FOR  
HER.

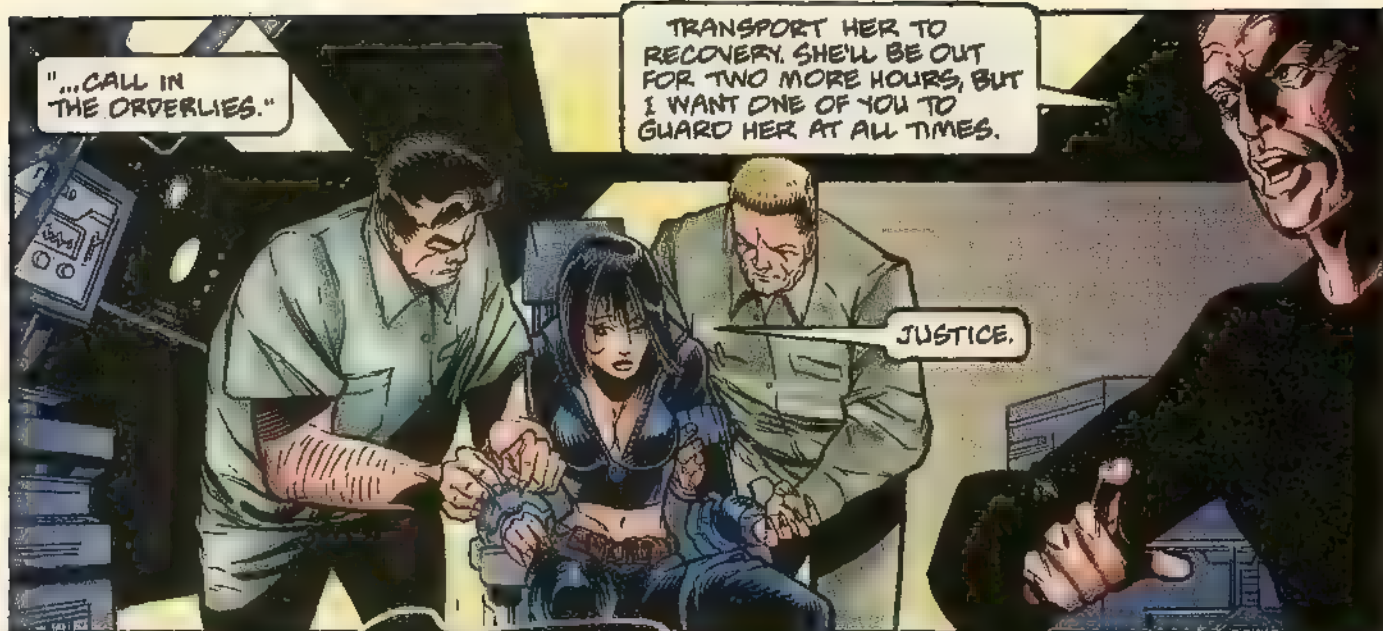
WHO CREATED THIS  
PATHETIC FANTASY?

SHE'S HER  
OWN CREATION.  
SHE'S REAL!  
AND SHE'S WITH  
US NOW.

SHE WON'T  
LEAVE UNTIL  
JUSTICE IS  
SERVED.

OR UNTIL WE BRING YOU  
BACK TO YOUR SENSES. DR.  
GREY, GIVE HER A WHITE-  
OUT SHOT. I'M AFRAID WE  
HAVE TO DO A COMPLETE  
REBUILD. AND THEN...





"...CALL IN THE ORDERLIES."

TRANSPORT HER TO RECOVERY. SHE'LL BE OUT FOR TWO MORE HOURS, BUT I WANT ONE OF YOU TO GUARD HER AT ALL TIMES.

JUSTICE.



THIS IS THE MOMENT, BRIGITTE. A FEW SECONDS MORE AND...

...YOU'RE BEYOND MY REACH. PART OF YOU HAS ALWAYS RESISTED ME.

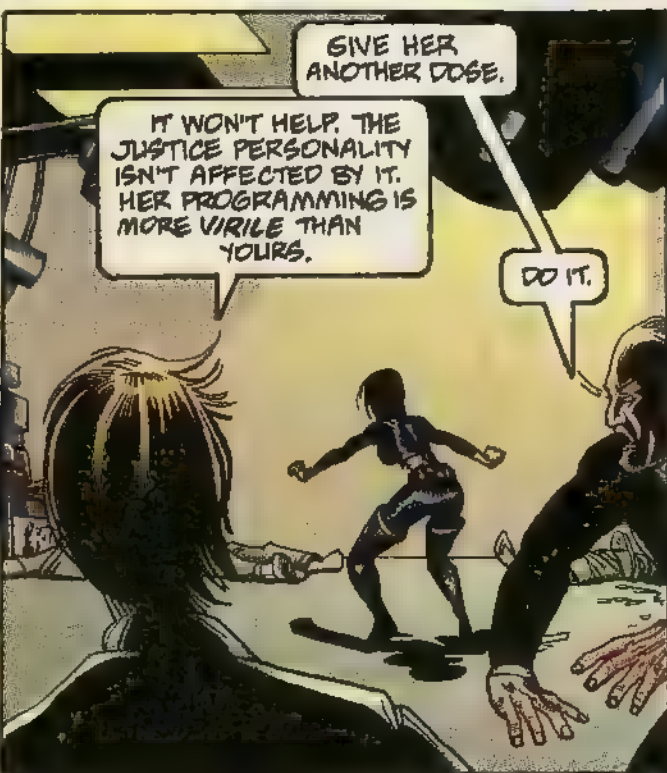
A PART THAT THINKS YOU'VE GONE INSANE. BUT YOU'VE GONE **SANE**.



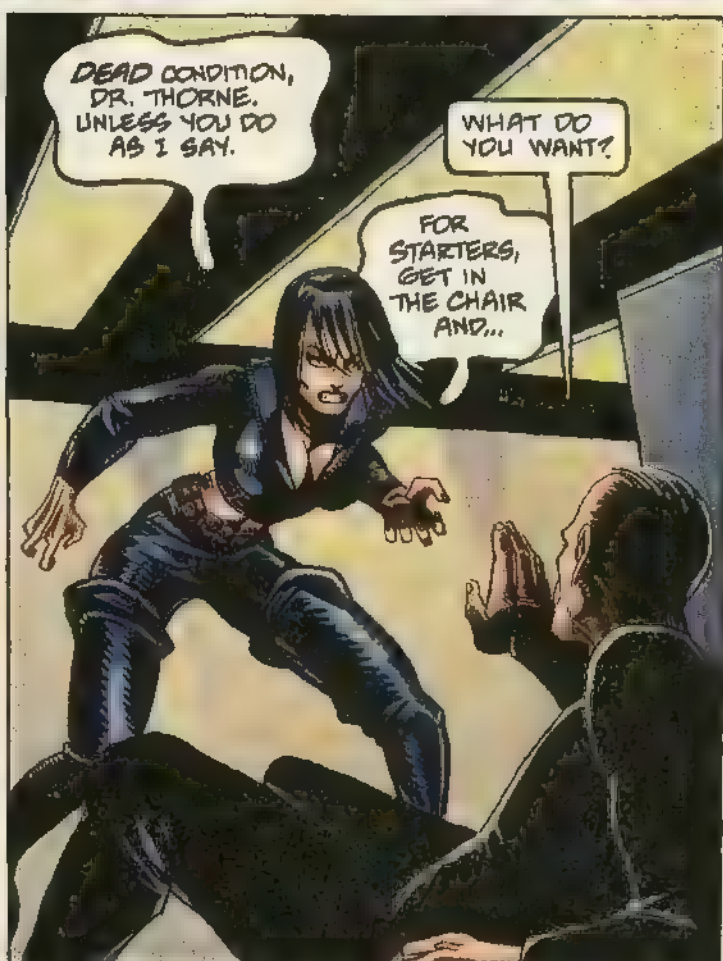
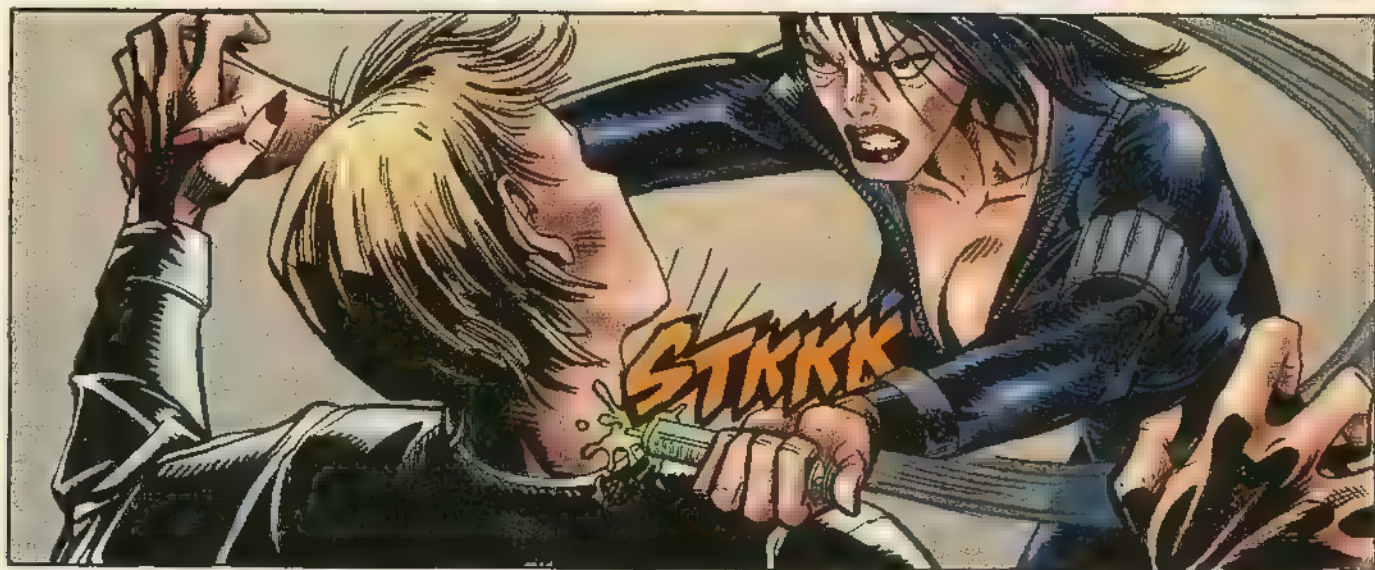
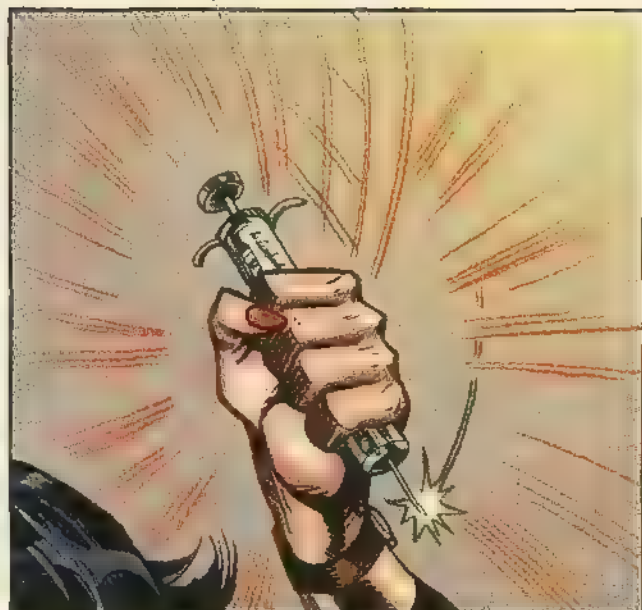
GIVE YOURSELF OVER TO ME ONCE MORE. WAKE NOW AND SEE THROUGH MY EYES.

I ACCEPT JUSTICE.









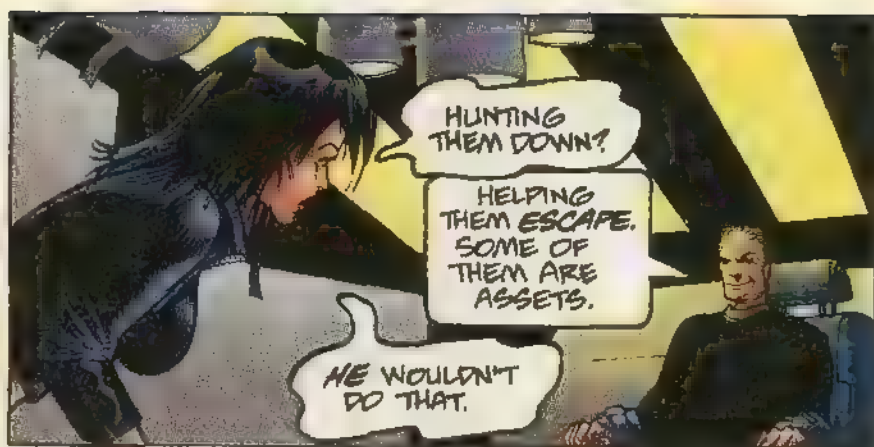




"--TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF."

"...NOW TELL ME ABOUT ANTON. WHERE IS HE?"

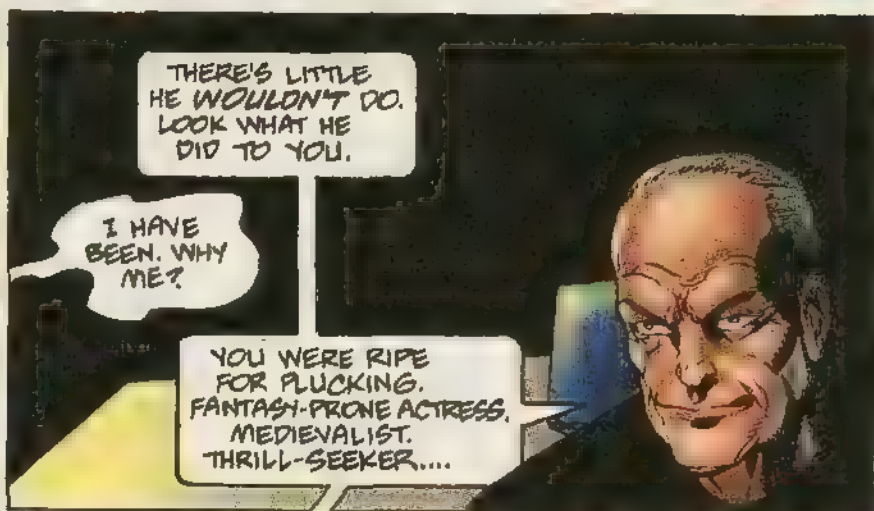
BOSNIA. SOMETHING TO DO WITH WAR CRIMINALS.



HUNTING THEM DOWN?

HELPING THEM ESCAPE. SOME OF THEM ARE ASSETS.

HE WOULDN'T DO THAT.



THERE'S LITTLE HE WOULDN'T DO. LOOK WHAT HE DID TO YOU.

I HAVE BEEN. WHY ME?

YOU WERE RIPE FOR PLUCKING. FANTASY-PRONE ACTRESS. MEDIEVALIST. THRILL-SEEKER....



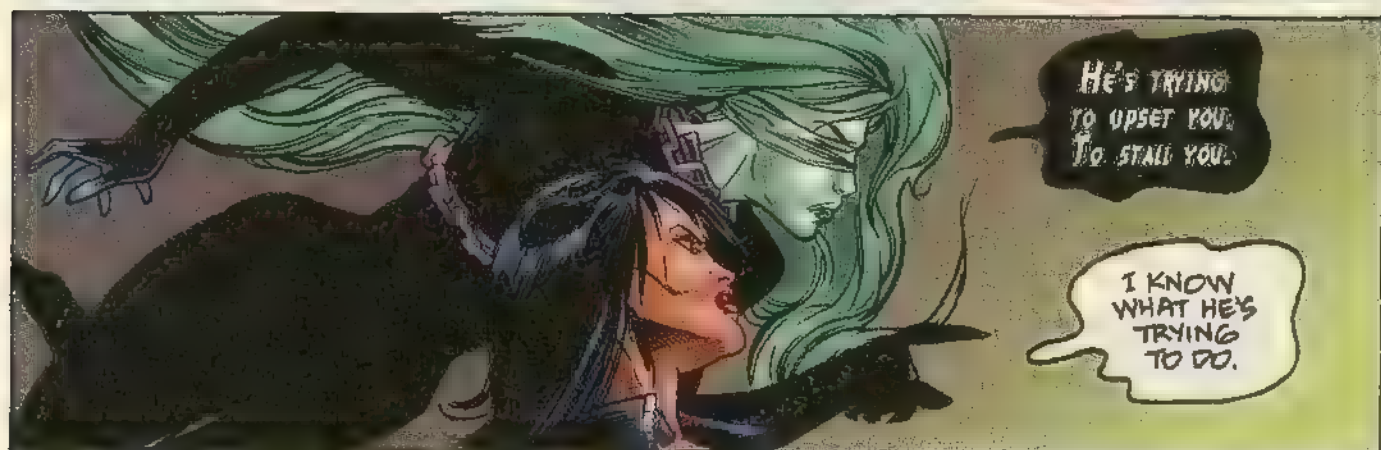
ANTON RECOGNIZED THAT KILLER QUALITY. HE WAS OUR STAR RECRUITER, AND YOU WERE OUR STAR PERFORMER.

BUT HE ONLY BROUGHT ME HERE BECAUSE OF THAT PHOTOGRAPH.



OH, THAT. WELL, HE WAS ALSO A GOOD PHOTOGRAPHER.

NO. IT CAN'T BE....



He's TRYING TO UPSET YOU. To STALL YOU.

I KNOW WHAT HE'S TRYING TO DO.





HE'LL TALK  
UNTIL HE  
REGAINS CONTROL—  
OR THE DRUG  
TAKES EFFECT.

FIRST HE  
MUST PAY  
FOR HIS SINS.

EXTRAORDINARY...  
JUDGED BY A  
WOMAN WHO TALKS  
TO SPIRITS. LADY  
JUSTICE--WAIT! IT  
MAKES SENSE NOW.



BLIND JUSTICE... REPORTS  
OF YOU WEARING A BLIND-  
FOLD... WHERE'S IT NOW?  
BACK AT THE COSTUME SHOP?

ONLY THOSE  
AWARE OF THEIR  
GUILT SEE THE  
BLINDFOLD. YOU  
ARROGANT BASTARDS  
BELIEVE YOU'RE  
ABOVE THE  
COMMON HERD  
AND SEE NO  
JUSTICE DUE.



ENOUGH OF YOUR  
SCHIZOID TAG TEAM.  
FACE REALITY.  
SECURITY IS--

EASILY CONTROLLED.  
A GUARD AT THE  
GATE. TWO ON THE  
PERIMETER. ANY  
OTHERS SEE  
ME LIFTING  
YOUR  
RECORDS,  
THEY'LL  
DIE  
QUICK  
ENOUGH.

BUT IN YOUR  
CONDITION,  
ONE WOMAN  
ISN'T ENOUGH.

I'M NOT ALONE.  
HARMON KOW, THE N.I.S.  
MAN YOU'VE RUN FROM  
FOR YEARS, IS WAITING  
OUTSIDE. IF I DON'T  
COME OUT--



"--HE COMES IN.  
NOW IF YOU'LL SHUT  
UP FOR A WHILE AND  
GIVE ME YOUR KEYS..."





"...I'LL STROLL  
DOWN MEMORY  
LANE."



SORRY TO KEEP YOU  
WAITING. I DID SOME  
RESEARCH ON WHAT YOU'VE  
BEEN DOING TO ALL YOUR  
"GUESTS." FOUND EVERY-  
THING I NEED.



TIME FOR  
YOUR  
SHOT,  
DOCTOR.



Mmmphh..



**BARRAUMMMM**







In the Fifth issue of

NEIL GAIMAN'S  
*Lady*  
**JUSTICE**

THE QUEST FOR JUSTICE  
COMES TO AN END AS  
BRIGITTE FACES THE MAN  
WHO TRAINED HER TO  
KILL—HER LOVER. IT'S  
STEEL AGAINST STEEL AS  
SHE FIGHTS THE FINAL  
BATTLE FOR HER SANITY  
AND HER SOUL IN THE  
EXCITING CONCLUSION OF...

# "CONTROL FREAK"

Written by EXECUTIONER™ author Rich Rainey and illustrated by  
Chris Marrinan (WILDSTAR™) and Mark Heike (STAR WARS™:TALES OF THE JEDI™)